NEWMAN DEFENDS ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Enters Denial at Half-and-Half Inquiry to Charges of Herbert J. Browne.

D. C. WITHOUT CONTROL OVER MANY MATTERS

Says Some of Instances Attacked Are Clearly Up to Congress and the Law.

A flat denial of every one of the more serious charges by Herbert J. Browne against the District government, and especially against assessments of 1915, made by William P. Richards, assessor. and the assessor's office, was made to-day by Commissioner Newman before took up with the joint select committee his discussion of his theories regarding the government of the District of Columbia and his views on the fiscal relation with the United States. Commissioner Newman told the joint select committee, in at least one instance, that Mr. Browne had not been candid, as matters of which he bitterly complained and used as objects of his assault were matters over which the whatsoever, as the Congress of the the cases. One of these was the complaint that the assessor refused to give up the practice of making out tax bills, and that he wanted to keep the bills in his own office "to cover up the errors of the office." Commissioner Newman today made it plain that the assessor's office makes out the bills because of an act of Congress requiring it to do so, and that the Commissioners had tried still trying to have the law

sioner Newman picked out of Commissioner Newman picked out of the Browne statement nearly every case wherein an attack had been made and answered them with facts, figures and dates. He called the turn on assessments, condemnations, areas; and pricked many of the bubbles of sensation left after Mr. Browne had stirred up the waters a few days ago on his appearance before the committee. He spent an even hour in outlining to the joint select committee the figures on the assessment in the business area of the city, showing that the present board of Commissioners, with the assessor and the board of assistant assessors, has raised the assessment in the thirty-eight squares comprising the high-class business district 44.7 per cent; and that \$4,768,000 of the \$15,-600,000 raised in the business district is to be found on the seven squares on both sides of 15th street, where there is an increase of nearly \$700,000 a

First Subject Taken Up.

"Let me call attention," began Com missioner Newman, "to the fact that this present District government ad-ministration began in July, 1913, while the George report, on which Mr. Browne bases much of his attack on assess-

bases much of his attack on assessments here, was completed in 1912; the criticisms are against an assessment made before the present administration went into office, and a new assessment has been made since then. When Commissioner Siddons and I went into office we were cognizant of criticism against assessment in the District of Columbia, and each of us knew specific cases where the assessment had been assailed as too low. The very first subject taken up by our board was that of assessments.

"We determined to make proper assessments for the 1915 triennial assessment. The law provides a board of three assistant assessor, and requires all three to view personally each parcel of land assessed. Most of Mr. Browne's criticism has been directed against the assessor is an administrative head of the office; so the assessment is in reality the work of four men. The assessor also has the responsibility of being the head of the board of equalization and review, composed of the three real estate assistant assessors and the two assistant assessors and the two assistant assessors and the feet of the three real estate assistant assessors and the two assistant assessors and the board of equalization and review, com-posed of the three real estate assistant assessors and the two assistant asses-said anything of the kind." sors who cover the personal property field."

New Board of Assessors. Mr. Newman explained that the House

District committee was investigating sor's office at the time he took matter was a new board of assessors, composed of one of the old members and two new members, appointed by the new Commissioners. These new members, he explained, are E. W. Oyster and W. L. Beale.

"We called in the new board and gave it specific instructions," continued tre Commissioner, "to begin anew on the 1915 assessment, to wipe the state clean, to be influenced by nothing that had gone on previously, be it assessment or George report or anyassessment or George report or any-thing else; but to make a thorough in-vestigation and produce an assess-ment that was accurate and right. We

An attack on E. W. Oyster, made by Mr. Browne, will be answered by Mr. Oyster himself, if the committee per-mits it, Mr. Newman explained.

Explains Reduced Assessment.

"Now as to the charge by Mr. Browne," said Commissioner Newman, "that the assessor and the four assistant assessors reduced the assessment on a piece of property owned jointly by them all. This property was at 20th and Belmont streets. The 1909 assessment was \$19,500 and the next assessment, 1912, was \$17,500. I studied this matter, gave it deep thought and then dismissed it from my mind because the reduction of taxes effected amounted to \$29,08 and the assessor's share of the reduction was only \$7.52. The board raised assessments on other property held by the assessor and his net tax bill was over \$10 higher than the year previous. I do not think that a lowering of \$7.52 in a tax bill justifies a conclusion of dishonesty.

"Mr. Browne criticises the value placed by the assessor on Potomac Park and compares it with the valuation on Analostan Island. The island is across the channel from the city and is not utilized. It is practically Virginia were it not for the peculiar boundary situation we have.

"The assessment on this property in this present assessment is based on exactly what was recently paid for it by Joseph Leiter, which was \$90,000. He was a plece of proping the papers. The Congress of the United States had to establish a new commission the matter all over again.

"In 1890 there was a plece of proping the papers, The became a part of the across the expression in dellars of the surface of the folly up his contention that assessments is the color. "As one instance of the folly up his contention that assessment is traction of the Capitol grounds the extension of the Capitol plaza to the land in this neighborhood for the extension of the Capitol grounds the e

In reply to the statement of Mr. Browne that information as to how not be obtained from the District build-

Mr. Browne had asked for the "cubic factors" used in placing values on some of the business structures, but that, as they had been used merely as notes, no record had been kept. He also told the committee that in assessing buildings something more than mere cubic cost had been considered, that a buildings use, depreciation, etc., entered into the total, and that three men, in viewing a building, might readily have different ideas as to cubic costs and might arrive at a conclusion through a system of averages or compromises.

promises.

Mr. Browne repeated the well known charge emanating from former Representative George's office, that the assessors refused to raise the assessment on Gifford Finchot's house, near Scott Circle, after the owner had written a letter stating that the assessment was too low. Commissioner Newman's defense of the assessor's office was simple. He produced the law, which states that once an assessment is closed up no power on earth can change it. The Pinchot complaint was received too late to make a change. However, the present assessment has raised the figure on the Pinchot property from \$121,350, of which the former chief forester complained, to \$141,670. Mr. Newman said the assessment for 1915 had been made after a full and careful investigation and that the board of Commissioners will stand by it.

Another set of figures from Mr. Browne's attack against the assessment system involved the Carlisle estate, which includes a part of the property at 11th and F streets occupied by Woodward & Lothrop. Mr. Newman told the committee that the Commissioners would stand behind the 1915 assessment steadfastly, and that the full value of that property as found by the present board of assistant assessors is \$555,720, as against \$320,790 in the previous assessment. This was made after a most thorough mr. Browne repeated the well known

the previous assessment.
"This was made after a most thorough nvestigation, on which we stand or all," said Mr. Newman, and then he

Congress Alone Responsible.

"Mr. Browne made reference to the sidewalks at 9th street and Louisiana lem. avenue which are privately rented for market purposes. He evidently endeavored to produce the impression that there is something wrong there, but if there is a wrong, the Congress of the United States and not the Commissioners are responsible. The side. as the half-and-half. I believe that

but if there is a wrong, the Congress of the United States and not the Commissioners are responsible. The side walks are the property of the United States and the Commissioners cannot collect rent from them.

"We would be glad to see a law passed empowering the Commissioners can issue regulations to keep spaces on sidewalks clear. However, the best interests of the community are served by allowing that sidewalk and other sidewalks to be used for market purposes, but we have no power to collect money for such use.

"Now Mr Propuse was not could be a word of the United States and the Commissioners can issue regulations to keep spaces on sidewalks to be used for market purposes, but we have no power to collect money for such use." oney for such use.
"Now Mr. Browne was not candid

with the committee in regard to tax bills. He said that the assessor makes out the bills in his office instead of allowing the bills to be made out in the tax collector's office, where they should be. I agree with him that the duty of making out tax bills should be taken from the assessor's office—but again, the law compels it done that way. Changes in the law have been recommended in the previous Congress, and I hope to see the change effected some day soon.

"Another reference of Mr. Browne "Another reference of Mr. Browne was in connection with the Shoreham Hotel assessment. In the previous assessment it was figured at a full value of \$763,353; in the 1915 assessment, on which we stand or fall, the assessment basis or full value is \$1,068,488.

Error of Private Concern.

"Mr. Browne claimed that there had een an error in the assessment book figures in regard to the Chaconas corner, at 9th street and Louisiana avenue, saying that 100 square feet

Other Assessments Explained

the present assessment Mr. Newman took certain other instances of propcommittee was investigating the assessor's office at the time he took office, and the upshot of the entire matter was a new board of assessors, composed of one of the old members and two new members, appointed by the new Commissioners. These new members, he explained, are E. W. Oyster and W. L. Beale.

"We called in the new board and gave it specific instructions," continued the Commissioner, "to begin anew on the 1915 assessment, to wipe the state clean, to be influenced by nothing that had gone on previously, be it assessment or George report or anything else; but to make a thorough investigation and produce an assessment that was accurate and right. We lold them to devote their first attention to the high-class business property; then the high-class residence property; then the suburban or speculative property, and in the case of the smaller home areas we had to tell the erty valuation which had been limetold them to devote their first attention to the high-class business property; then the high-class residence ago for \$1,800,000 or thereabout property; then the suburban or speculative property, and in the case of the smaller home areas we had to tell the beard to simply give it a lick and a promise—a mere 'once over.'

"The Commissioners therefore assume full responsibility for the 1915 assessments."

the fact that a fire insurance company which purchased it several years page for \$1,800,000 or thereabout placed it in the assests at \$2,000,000. The present assessment is on a full value of \$1,733,586, and he said that the superintendent of insurance had caused the insurance company to reduce the value of the building in the company's assets to a figure quite meant the assessor's valuation of it. near the assessor's valuation of it.

He gave the 1912 and 1915 assessment figures on the Lars Anderson home, the 1440 F street property, the Home Life building and the Perry Belmont property, all showing increases. He continued:

ointly by them all. This property land and that these awards are re-was at 20th and Belmont streets. The

L. A. Downs, superintendent of the Kentucky division of the Illinois Cen-tral railroad, with headquarters in Louisville, has been appointed general superintendent of all lines of the sysem south of the Ohio river.

FOR ABANDONMENT OF HALF-AND-HALF

Commissioner Newman Advocates New Plan of Finance for the District.

WOULD HAVE CONGRESS TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITY

Money Derived From Local Taxation Would Be Turned Into Federal Treasury.

District Commissioner Newman today made a statement before the joint select committee of Congress investigating the fiscal relation between the United States and the District, urging the abandonment of the present half-and-half plan and the substitution of

as the half-and-half. I believe that a great deal of the friction which has arisen in the last few years is due to a misunderstanding as to just what Congress in the act of 1878 agreed to do. In the minds of a great many people in the city of Washington and in the minds of a great many members of Congress I have found an impression that Congress vol only agreed. pression that Congress not only agreed to pay half of the expenses of the Dis-trict of Columbia, but that it agreed to match dollar for dollar nues raised by the District of Colubia. Even a casual reading of act of 1878 shows that Congress not agree to or propose to do a not agree to or propose to do any such thing. What Congress did be-lieve the United States should do was to pay one-half of the expenses on account of the District of Columbia.

What Congress Provided.

"The act of 1878 provided that the Commissioners of the District of Columbia each year should make an estimate of the expenses of the District of Columbia for the next fiscal year. Then Congress said (paragraph 16 of the act of 1878), to the extent to which Congress shall approve of said estimates Congress shall appropriate the amount of 50 per

shall appropriate the amount of 50 per centum thereof.'

"I think the reason for the impression that Congress agreed to match dollar for dollar the money raised in the District of Columbia is due to the fact that almost all the time from 1878 until the present the revenues of the District of Columbia have been less than one-half of the expenditures of the District of Columbia, so that in actual practice Congress has matched dollar for dollar the amount of money raised locally.

Cites Basis for Friction.

approved estimates shall be levied and strivate of east-rivate of the assessed upon the taxable property and privileges in said District other than the property of the United States and of the listific of Columbia.

Tixed Rigid Tax Rate.

"In other words, in 1878 Congress add, The United States will pay one-based of the words, in 1878 Congress add, The United States will pay one-based of the words of the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every such taxes as will produce the District of and the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every such taxes as will produce the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every such taxes as will produce the District shalf. Had this purpose been lowed to the very sense of the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every such taxes as will produce the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every such taxes as will produce the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every state of the the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every state of the words, in 1878 Congress fixed the tax rate in the District of Columbia and by proper legislation will every state of the paying of the District of Columbia and produce the District of Columbia and District revenues and the Congress and District revenues and the Congress and District revenues and the Congress and District of Columbia and

and old interest on 3.65 bonds of \$5.6,-967.23; old debt to Freedmen's Hospital of \$37,996.70; we restored to the federal government \$165,937 of rentals on prop-erty belonging to the United States, and we made up a shortage of \$63,000 arising from a defalcation of a District employe

Big Surplus in Future.

"Looking into the future, we find an portant that this increase in District revenues be carefully considered. It seems to me that these figures alone show the necessity of a rearrangement of the fiscal relation between the Dis-trict of Columbia and the United States, Calls Statement Folly.

"Mr. Browne made much of the claim that the awards of condemnation juries in the District had uniformly shown the true value of the land and that these awards are reliable and this claim is made to hold in his content of the content of the land and the United States, because unless they are rearranged in 1920 we will have a surplus of District revenues of about \$3,000,000, which obviously would be absurd."

Mr. Newman submitted the following as a tentative estimate of surplus in District revenues over appropriation charges for the fiscal year ending June 1920 we will have a surplus of District revenues of about \$3,000,000, which obviously would be absurd."

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Estimated portion of appropriations payable from District revenues, \$6,170,507 \(2 \) \$8,071,990,90 \(2 \) \$1,090,000.00 \(2 \) \$8,000,000.00 \(2 \) \$8,000,000.00 \(2 \) \$8,000,000.00 \(2 \) \$9,000.00 \(2 \) \$9,000.00 \(2 \) \$9,000.00 \(2 \) \$9,000.00 \(2

Estimated surplus accumulation by 1920 Deduct definciency in revenues close 1915 Leaving an accumulated surplus

Decrease in Tax Rate.

"In considering the increase of revenues I would like also to call the committee's attention to the fact that there has been, in effect, since 1878 a tecrease in the tax rate. I said a mo bought it to hold against the future needs of the gas company and it is a case of the expression in dollars of the meeting of the minds of the seller willing but not forced to sell and a buyer willing but not forced to sell and a buyer willing but not required to buy. The assessment is based precisely on the figures in the deal.

"As to the criticism of the valuation placed on government property, let me say that in my judgment such valuation is a mere guess anyhow."

Asked for "Cubic Factors."

In reply to the statement of the statement of the matter all over again.

"Is start the matter all over again.

\$1.50 a hundred, and it has remained at that figure ever since, and that, the tax rate being rigid, the revenues have automatically increased. What amounted to tax rate being rigid, the revenues have automatically increased. What amounted to tax rate being rigid, the revenues have automatically increased was caused by the act of Congress, carried in the form of a provise under the appropriation bill of 1902, which stipulated that thereafter real property in take the property over himself. He tried to sell his equity for \$20,000, but could not. Three years later, he having did meantime, his daughter was a word in explanation of that provise, which has been the subject of a great expectation. ment ago that the rate was fixed at

tit was intended to increase rather than to decrease assessments. An investigation had just been made of assessments and the committee that conducted the investigation had ascertained through its hearings that assessments were very low, running from 20 per cent to 50 per cent. Feeling that it would be impossible in a short space of time to get assessments up to full value, as then required by law, but resolved to bring about an improvement in the assessments, or rather to bring about an increase in the assessments, this proviso was incorporated in the bill, that thereafter assessments should be not less than two-thirds of actual value.

this proviso was incorporated in the bill, that thereafter assessments should be not less than two-thirds of actual value.

Situation Declared Simple.

"The effect of this proviso of 1902 you will, therefore, see was to make the tax rate paid in the District of Columbia \$1 per \$100, or 1 per cent, and in making up the figures referred to a moment ago, carrying the revenues and surpluses to 1920, the 1 per cent tax rate has been assumed for the future.

"It seems to me, in view of this situation, that this committee is considered which is the dominant factor. Which must "It seems to me, in view of this situation, that this committee is conformed by what is really quite a simple situation and not so complicated and difficult as one would presume from the vast amount of evidence, discussion and argument that has been bia, and will conduct the following that is done in the District of Columbia; which will continue to take the responsibility for everything that is done in the District of Columbia; which will continue to take the responsibility for everything that is done in the District of Columbia; which will conduct the conduct that the conduct the conduc

from the vast amount of evidence, discussion and argument that has been presented in this matter. It seems to me that these certain surpluses automatically dispose of the half-and-half, for this reason: That to defend the half-and-half in the face of them means to do one of two things—appropriate twice as much money every propriate twice as much money and-half plan and the substitution of the so-called Works plan, providing that the federal government pay all of the expenses of the District and that the citizens of the District be taxed a reasonable amount, the taxes to be paid into the federal Treasury.

Mr. Newman said that District Commissioner Brownlow agreed with him in regard to the solution of the problem.

"In 1878 Congress." said Mr. New-parent, also, to every member of this year as the District raises and the other hand, I think it must be apparent, also, to every member of this committee that when you sit down and calmly consider the appropriating habits of the Congress of the United States you will know that Congress is not going to make appropriations for twice the amount of these increasing revenues of the District of Columbia.

D. C. Financial Condition Excellent.

"Congress is not going to do it, not only because in making provisions for an institution of the character of the make sudden and abnormal increases make sudden and abnormal increases in the government forever.

in appropriations in any one year, but "If that provision had been incorpoalso because the financial condition of rated when the District of Columbia also because the financial condition of the District of Columbia the District of Columbia is most excellent. Our indebtedness is less than \$6,009,000; in fact, we have no indebtedness except the outstanding 3.65 bonds, which represent the less than six million dollars that I have just indicated. Any large extraordinary projects such as the Great Falls power plant or the branching out of the District of Columbia this question would not have triet government into municipal/owner. rict government into municipal/owner ship, or operation of any public utility, could and should be financed by a bond issue. Our credit, both for sentimental could and should be financed by a bond issue. Our credit, both for sentimental and financial reasons, could hardly be better. We not only have a very small indebtedness when compared to our taxable values, but being a sort of stepson of Uncle Sam, we are able to float bonds at a much better rate of interest than any other municipality.

"A defender of the half-and-half system might with some logic advocate the payment of this balance of less than \$6,000,000 of 3.65 bonds with the surplus of District revenues, but we are paying

"The act of 1878 was absolutely sound in theory, provided you grant the logic or propriety of fixing the District and federal contributions upon the percentage basis. I say this because in that actparagraph 17, immediately following the paragraph 18, immediately following the paragraph just quoted—Congress said:

'And the remaining 50 per centum of such approved estimates shall be levied and assessed upon the taxable property and privileges in said District other than the property of the United States and of the District of Columbia.

Fixed District The national government should pay all the expenses of the District of Columbia, but which I am compelled to make because I am absolutely convinced of its truth. I believe that 90 per cent of the friction between members of Congress and citizens of the District of Columbia, and 90 per cent of the friction between individuals or groups of individuals in Congress or the District of Columbia.

Fixed District The national government should pay all the expenses of the District of Columbia, just as it pays all of the expenses of the Agricultural Department, the War Department, the Department of all other executive departments or branches of the federal government. It should pay all bills out of any moneys in the total citizens of the District of Columbia.

Congress or the District of Columbia.

Congress or the District of Columbia.

"The national government should pay all the expenses of the District of Columbia, but the Navy Department, the War Department, the Navy Department of all the expenses of the District of all the expenses of the District of all the expenses of the District of Columbia, but the Navy Department of all the expenses of the District of all the expenses of the District of Columbia, but the Navy Department, the Navy Department, the Navy Department of all the expenses of the District of Columbia.

I am absolutely convinced of its truth. I believe that 90 per cent of the friction between members of Congress and citizens of the District of Columbia.

Cong

men and firemen of the District of Columbia should ride free on street cars in the Commissioners for report. The Commissioners for report. The Commissioners which were regulated by the District should should not be permitted to accept gratuitles from corporations which were regulated by the District, and that the commissioners had asked in their missioners also were opposed to the bill because it would favor one certain class of employes of the committee of Columbia as against all other employes. The bill was before a committee of Columbia as against all other employes. The bill was before a committee of Columbia as against all other employes. The bill was before a committee said: I am inclined his in object to the committee said: I am inclined his in object to the committee said: I am inclined his in object to the commissioners should issue tickets to them whenever riding in the performance of their duties. Two members of the commissioners should issue tickets to them whenever riding in the performance of their duties. Two members of the commissioners should issue tickets to the more proposed to the hill-rand-half. In the hill was before a committee said: I am inclined his included his proposed to the hill-rand-half. In the hill was before a committee of the committee should be paid and arrive at a determination of how much should be paid and arrive at a determination of how much should be paid and arrive at a determination of how much should be paid and arrive at a determination of how much should be paid and

many members of Congress, advocating the national idea, saying that this is the National Capital; that the District was created by Congress for the specific purpose of housing the capital of the United States, and that the local resident has come here with full knowledge that he was a mere tenant; that he came here with full knowledge lated that thereafter real property in the District of Columbia should be assessed at not less than two-thirds of its actual value. I would like to say a word in explanation of that proviso, which has been the subject of a great which has been the subject of a great dail of controversy in and out of Congress.

"If you consider the provise entirely irrespective of the conditions which produced it, taking it merely at its face value, you will assume that its purpose was to fix a minimum for assessments. As a matter of fact, when the proviso was a stacched to the appropriation bill

members of the committee will consider the question for a moment they will realize that we have not the time, the facilities or the money with velich the facilities or the money with velich without a personal investigation in the south of the control of the con Comparison With Other Cities.

esentatives of the citizens' committee

Whole Responsibility Federal.

"Going back to the fact that the dom-

nant element in the question under

consideration is the national govern-

ment, I come to the declaration of the

plan of fiscal relation which Commis-

sioner Brownlow and I believe should

"Right here I want to digress to say a great deal of attention from the rep-That is the comparison of Washington with other capital cities of the world, a subject which has also received considerable attention and has been discussed by the advorates of self-government in the District of Columbia. The fact that London is the capital of Great Britain is not the dominant element of the situation there. It is the incidental element. The dominant element is the fact that London is the tremendous commercial, financial and a subject which has also received con-

DAMAGE SUIT VERDICT BEFORE HIGHEST COURT

industrial center of the whole British empire.

"In considering the affairs of that municipality that factor is a greater factor than that it is the seat of government. We are told that London has done this, or Paris has done that, or the people off in Rio de Janeiro have done the other, but all this has nothing whatever to do with what ought to be done in Washington, because we have a wholly unique situation, as I said, paralleled only by Camberra, and not exactly like that, because the new constitution of Australia, under which it is established, provides that title to all lands in the federal zone shall remain in the government forever. Award Made for Injuries in Case of Instantaneous Death Is Contested.

of a railroad employe killed while engaged in interstate commerce may recover from a railroad for the "injury to the decedent" in cases of "instantaneous" death of the employe was presented to the Supreme Court of the United States today for decision. was constituted you gentlemen would not have been here to conduct this in-The case in which the point was argued was that of W. N. Shewalter, adpoint of conflict, the issue between the government on one side and the right of the individual to the use of the land which he owns in fee. If there was no privately owned land in the District of Columbia this question would not have arisen, as the District would have been actually a federal reservation. ministrator of Robert K. Shewalter. Ohio railway. Robert K. Shewalter, a fireman on that road, was killed outright when his locomotive hit a bowlder which had rolled down the mountain

Whether the personal representative

which had rolled down the mountain side across the track. Judgment for \$15,000 was rendered, but later reduced to \$10,000.

The supreme court of Tennessee held that no recovery could be held for injury to the deceased when his death had been instantaneous. No claims for pecuniary loss to survivors was averged. pecuniary loss to survivors was averred in the suit. Attorneys for the estate however, claim that the doctrine ap plied by the Tennessee court is a reli-of barbarism of the common law, abolished by the 1910 amendment federal employers' liability law

To Speak on Hawaiian Islands.

sioner Brownlow and I believe should exist between the District and the United States. That is, that the District of Columbia, continuing to be a city of 350,000 people, but being the minor factor of the equation, and the National Capital being the major factor, that for purposes of government, for purposes of financing the municipality, the primary, the whole responsibility is that of the national government, "Where the Garden of Eden Could Have Been-A Trip to the Hawaiian Possession," will be the theme of an rossession, will be the theme of an illustrated lecture this evening at 7:39 o'clock at the Mount Pleasant Congregational Church, under the joint auspices of the social service department of the Mount Pleasant Congregational Church and the Percents' League of the Third and the Parents' League of the Third Division of Public Schools, by Clinton M. Hicks. This is one of a series of lectures being given by the league and the social service department,

Kentuckians to Meet.

meeting of the Kentucky State Association vening at the Portner, 15th and U

ple in settling the Pennsylvania an-thracite strike, and no one has a higher admiration of the value of what he did

than I have. Had he failed in arbitration, however, Mr. Roosevelt proposed to use the army to seize private property. The benevolence of his purpose no one can deny. But from a standpoint of a government of law it could only be regarded as lawless."

In closing, however, Mr. Taft said it was entirely proper that the President should be clothed with great enough power to carry out the governmental power to carry out the governmental purpose of the people.

AMONG PLEASURE CRAFT.

Yacht Roxana in Winter Quarters. Movements of Gaivota and Kemah. The steam yacht Roxana, belonging

o Larz Anderson, which arrived here about six weeks ago and which, it was has been laid up for the winter at the wharf foot of 6th street southwest. Her crew have returned home and, shrouded in canvas, the fine craft will lie idle, with her engineer as caretaker, until the return of summerlike weather. The power yacht Gaivota, belonging to John R. Dos Passos of New York, which is lying in her berth, at the foot of M street southwest, it is stated, will leave here in the next day or two for the lower river, where Mr. Dos Passos has a large country place, at the junction of the Potomac with its tributary the Yeocomico.

From a trip to Norfolk and the lower part of Chesapeake bay, the power yacht Kemah, belonging to F. A. Lewis of Westport, Conn., returned to port yesterday, and after taking on gasoline, ice and stores dropped out to an anchorage in the lower end of the harbor. The Kemah has been in port here at intervals for the past three weeks, but is expected to sail shortly for Florida to spend the winter. shrouded in canvas, the fine craft will

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